

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for changing the delivery point of an item while the item is en route, comprising:

determining a first delivery point of the item;

notifying, based on the first delivery point, a recipient that the item is en route;

accepting at least one instruction designating a second delivery point; and

delivering the item to the second delivery point[[:]].

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein accepting the at least one instruction comprises accepting at least one instruction from the recipient.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein accepting at least one instruction designating a second delivery point comprises:

notifying a sender of the item; and

allowing the sender to specify ~~whether to deliver to the first delivery point or that the item is to be delivered to the second delivery point.~~

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein delivering the item to the second delivery point comprises:

notifying the sender, if actual delivery is made; and

requesting disposition instructions from the sender, if delivery was not made.

5. (Currently amended) A method for changing the delivery point of an item while the item is en route, comprising:

determining a first delivery point of the item;

notifying a sender that the item is en route;

allowing the sender to specify that the item is to be delivered to a second delivery point;

accepting [[a]] the second delivery point from the sender; and

delivering the item to the second delivery point.

6. (Currently amended) A method for handling an undeliverable item, comprising:

changing a delivery point of an item while the item is en route;

notifying a sender of the item that the item is undeliverable;

accepting a disposition instruction from the sender; and

handling the item according to the disposition instruction.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the disposition instruction is an instruction to return the item to the sender.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the disposition instruction is an instruction to auction the item.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the disposition instruction is an instruction to donate the item.

10. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the disposition instruction is an instruction to dispose of the item.

11. (Original) A system for changing the delivery point of an item while the item is en route, comprising:

means for determining a first delivery point of the item;

means for notifying, based on the first delivery point, a recipient that the item is en route;

means for accepting a second delivery point from the recipient; and

means for delivering the item to the second delivery point.

12. (Currently amended) A system for changing the delivery point of an item while the item is en route, comprising:

means for determining a first delivery point of the item;

means for notifying a sender that the item is en route;

means for allowing the sender to specify that the item is to be delivered to
a second delivery point;

means for accepting [[a]] the second delivery point from the sender; and

means for delivering the item to the second delivery point.

13. (Currently amended) A system for handling an undeliverable item,
comprising:

means for changing a delivery point of an item while the item is en route;

means for notifying a sender of the item that the item is undeliverable;

means for accepting a disposition instruction from the sender; and

means for handling the item according to the disposition instruction.

14. (Original) A method to flexibly deliver an item, comprising:
determining a first delivery point of the item;
providing a notification to indicate that the item is en route to the first
delivery point;
conditionally accepting a second delivery point of the item; and
delivering the item to one of the first delivery point and second delivery
point based on the conditional acceptance of the second delivery point.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising:
providing information to indicate that the item was delivered to the one of
the first delivery point and second delivery point.
16. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising:
providing information to indicate that the item was not delivered, when the
first delivery point and second delivery point are undeliverable.
17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
accepting at least one additional delivery point for the item; and
delivering the item to the at least one additional delivery point.
18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising:
providing at least one additional notification based on delivery of the item
to the at least one additional delivery point.
19. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein determining a first delivery
point of the item comprises capturing an image of the item.
20. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein conditionally accepting the
second delivery point of the item, comprises:
requesting, from the sender, an approval of the second delivery point.

21. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising:
determining at least one characteristic of the item.
22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein providing the notification to indicate that the item is en route to the first delivery point includes information indicating the at least one characteristic of the item.
23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein determining the at least one characteristic of the item comprises determining a weight of the item.
24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein determining the at least one characteristic of the item comprises determining a size of the item.
25. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein determining the at least one characteristic of the item comprises capturing an image of the item.
26. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein providing the notification to indicate that the item is en route to the first delivery point comprises providing information to indicate a time the item will arrive at the first delivery point.
27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein conditionally accepting the second delivery point of the item comprises accepting a specified time for the item to arrive.

28. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein conditionally accepting a second delivery point of the item is based on verifying an identity of a recipient for the item.

29. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein conditionally accepting a second delivery point of the item is based on receiving an approval from a sender of the item.

30. (Original) A system for flexible delivery of an item, comprising:
means for determining a first delivery point of the item;
means for providing a notification to indicate that the item is en route to the first delivery point;
means for conditionally accepting a second delivery point of the item; and
means for delivering the item to one of the first delivery point and second delivery point based on the conditional acceptance of the second delivery point.